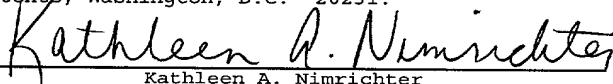


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Kathleen A. Nimrichter

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Yuzuru Suzuki et al.

For : STEPPING MOTOR

Serial No. : Unknown

Filing Date : Herewith

Attorney Docket No. : SZI 2 0018

Cleveland, Ohio 44114

October 25, 2001

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. The stepping motor according to claim 1, wherein one pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be smaller than the width of the N pole and another pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be larger than the width of the N pole are alternately arranged.

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Please add new claim 4 as follows:

4. The stepping motor according to claim 2, wherein one pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be smaller than the width of the N pole and another pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be larger than the width of the N pole are alternately arranged.

REMARKS

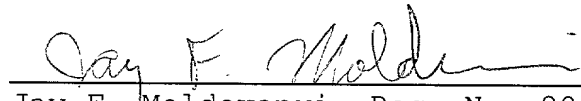
This application basis its priority on Japanese application serial number 329953/2000. The Japanese application, and its English translation, include a multiply dependent claim. Applicant takes this opportunity to remove the multiple dependency from the claims being submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

In addition, applicant hereby adds a new dependent claim 4.

Prompt and favorable examination of pending claims 1-4 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP



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EXHIBIT A

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) The stepping motor according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein one pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be smaller than the width of the N pole and another pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be larger than the width of the N pole are alternately arranged.

Please add new claim 4 as follows:

4. (New) The stepping motor according to claim 2, wherein one pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be smaller than the width of the N pole and another pair of the S pole and the N pole in which the width of the S pole is set to be larger than the width of the N pole are alternately arranged.